

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC General Information from the Area of Mechanized Division EggesinEVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 25 October 1954 25X1REFERENCES                     PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                      25X1REMARKS                     

25X1

1. Between 12 and 19 September 1954, KVP units in the Eggesin-Karpin area were engaged in field training and firing practice. On each week day, firing practice with machine guns and carbines was held in the wooded area near the barracks installations. At 0800 on each day between 13 and 17 September, columns of eight trucks each left the installations and returned at 1700. Each truck carried 25 KVPs. On 13, 14 and 16 September, firing practice with mortars was observed in the Neumuehl area, while artillery firing practice was held in the area east of Karpin on 13, 14 and 17 September. At 1500 on 16 September, a column of 15 sidecar motorcycles which had machine guns mounted on them passed through Eggesin and went toward the caserne at Karpin. 25X1

2. Between 20 and 25 September, KVP training in the Eggesin-Karpin area appeared to be held at a higher level. Training of small units near the barracks installations was no longer observed, but columns of trucks with KVPs carrying full field pack were seen going toward Ahlbeck or Torgelow every morning. Noises from tanks practicing in the Neumuehl area were heard every morning and afternoon. At 0800 on 21, 22 and 23 September, a column of 35 trucks towing about 15 x 76-mm field guns, about 15 x 122-mm howitzers and 2 field kitchens left the installations and drove to the wooded area in the direction of Torgelow. Each truck was occupied by 12 KVPs who wore camouflage uniforms and carried full field pack. 25X1

3. On 17 September, the harvesting details returned to Karpin. About 350 KVPs of the 2d Mecz Regt had been employed at harvesting in the Waren area. The returnees were granted a special short-term furlough. KVPs allegedly were also to be employed harvesting potatoes. On 18 September, the supply platoon, the headquarters platoon and all technicians of the 2d Mecz Regt were detached for harvesting. 25X1

4. Between 14 and 18 September, little training activity was seen in the Karpin area since most of the personnel was employed at harvesting. Fall firing practices by the artillery units were to begin on 22 September, while the fall inspections at Karpin were allegedly to commence on 20 September. The 1st Mecz Regt was to conduct a field exercise at regimental level on 18 and 19 September, but only a short-time inspection was planned for the 2d Mecz Regt. 25X1

5. Vehicles observed at the division headquarters included sedans                      25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

6. At morning roll call on 21 September, the KVPs of AAA Unit Rau at Altwarp were informed that their unit had the highest efficiency rating of all KVP AAA units which participated in firing practice at Zingst. The unit was awarded a special furlough which was to be taken in for groups. Only 25 KVPs of the unit were detached for harvesting employment. On 20 September, the installation was occupied by about 280 KVPs. Recruits had not yet arrived.

25X1

7. The AAA unit was equipped with 26 x 37-mm AA guns and 12 medium AA guns.

8. On 14, 15 and 16 September, an AAA battery, including six artillery pieces and eight vehicles, participated in a field exercise in the Torgelow area.

9. The driver school unit which was quartered in the same installation numbered 200 KVPs. Details of 50 KVPs were detached for harvesting employment.

10. On 23 September, Major General Hermann Rentzsch, his staff, and two Soviet instructors held fall inspection in the Karpin area. From 1000 to 1100, all units from Karpin and units from Spechtberg, without vehicles and heavy weapons, passed in review before Major General Rentzsch. In the afternoon, the general inspected the various sections of the Karpin post. A KVP officer stated that, after termination of the field exercise, the troops could take a rest and that no further field exercises were to be expected.

25X1

11. Prior to 28 September, the barracks installations sections A through E were occupied by the same units as before the beginning of the field exercises. Training was held within the area of the various sections. Only tank units left the installation for field exercises in the Jaegerbrueck-Hoelkebaum area on Monday and returned to Karpin on Saturday.

12. Major Bohmert (fnu) was commanding officer of the unit quartered in section A, and Major Guenther Schmidt commanded the units quartered in section B of the installation at Spechtberg. Major Schmidt also was post commander at Spechtberg.

Comment. The fall inspection of Mechanized Division Eggesin probably was held between 20 and 23 September 1954. It is believed that the inspection of artillery and tank units was continued after that date in the area of the Jaegerbrueck troop training grounds. The training of the KVP units was temporarily interrupted by detachment of personnel for harvesting employment. No definite conclusions can be drawn that the fall inspection terminated the training year or major field exercises will be held in October 1954 after completion of harvest.

25X1

25X1

SECRET